

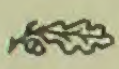
THE EYE REVEALS THE SOUL;
THE MOUTH THE FLESH; BUT
THE VOICE TELLS ALL

VOICE AS SYMBOL



It is well to cultivate a mild, gentle and sympathetic voice, and the one way to secure a mild, gentle and sympathetic voice is to be mild, gentle and sympathetic. ✿ The voice is the index of the soul. Children do not pay much attention to your words—they judge of your intents by your voice. Your voice reassures. “My sheep know my voice.” We judge each other more by voice than by language, for voice colors speech, and if your voice does not corroborate your words, doubt will follow. We are won or repelled by a voice. Your dog does not obey your words—he does, however, read your intents in your voice.

The best way to cultivate the voice is not to think about it. Actions become regal only

when they are unconscious; and the voice that convinces, that holds us captive, that leads and lures us on, is used by its owner unconsciously  Fix your mind on the thought, and the voice will follow. If you fear you will not be understood, you are losing the thought—it is slipping away from you—and you are thinking of the voice. Then your voice rises to a screech, subsides into a purr, or bellows like the vagrant winds. Anxiety and intent are shown, and your case is lost. If you fear you will not be understood, you probably will not. If the voice is allowed to come naturally, easily, and gently, it will take on every tint and emotion of the mind.

So to get back to the place of beginning, my advice is this: The way to cultivate the voice is not to cultivate it. ¶ The voice is the sounding board of the soul. God made it right. If your soul is filled with truth, your voice will vibrate with love, echo with sympathy, and fill your hearers with the desire to do, to be and to

WHITE HYACINTHS

become ✻ Your desire will be theirs. By their voices ye shall know them.

Peace—be still! Feel that, and then say it, and your voice shall be a word of command that even the elements will obey.

